

Interagency Development Team



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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Date: September 17, 1997

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Subject: Preferred Alternative Interagency Development Team

Summary

At the August 14, 1997 Policy Group meeting, CALFED agencies were requested to commit staff resources to assist with the alternative development and evaluation process, as well as responding to comments and helping revise the draft Programmatic EIR/EIS. This issue was also discussed at the Management Team meeting on September 11. On September 16, I sent a letter to CALFED agencies requesting staff be assigned to represent the co-lead agencies on the Preferred Alternative Interagency Development Team (IDT). As depicted in the attached chart, the IDT is composed of a CALFED staff core group and an agency team.

Collectively, the IDT is charged with developing, over the next four months, the draft Preferred Alternative(s) for Policy Group decisions. The products of the IDT will be presented for Policy Group action after the Management Team reviews these products for compliance with CALFED objectives and Solution Principles. IDT members will be expected to fully represent the positions of their respective agencies, and should be directly accountable to the Management Team and Policy Group representatives from their agency. Each IDT member should fully coordinate with their Management Team, Policy Group, and Program Coordination Team representatives. I expect that the full IDT will meet frequently, and members will need to dedicate very significant effort to this process, perhaps up to a half time effort.

The attached flow chart entitled "Preferred Alternative Development and Screening Process" depicts the process as envisioned. Together, the Core Team, composed of CALFED staff and the Agency Team, the CALFED agency representatives you will appoint, form the IDT. The Core Team (CALFED staff) has responsibility for helping to array and analyze alternatives, to clarify differences and tradeoffs, and to prepare draft materials for

CALFED Agencies

California The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

Preferred Alternative Interagency Development Team
September 17, 1997
Page Two

action by the IDT. The purpose of dedicating CALFED staff resources through the Core Team is to enable steady momentum to be maintained toward a decision, and to enable the IDT to work efficiently and effectively in this process.

Agency Team members will receive support from technical experts in their organizations and bring the products of this expertise to the deliberations of the IDT. Coordination with the Program Coordination Team participants will also be accomplished through the Agency Team. The work of the IDT will be coordinated with other CALFED activities, such as prefeasibility studies, finance, and assurances, through the Core Team.

The IDT will provide decision support to the Management Team which, in turn, provides decision support to the Policy Group. The IDT will also provide decision support to CALFED management and incorporate input from BDAC, stakeholders and the public, as necessary to assist CALFED management in formulating recommendations for Policy Group action.

The projected time line follows as Attachment 1.

Action

The CALFED Policy Group should be prepared to provide comments on the proposed structure and general consensus on the strategy discussed to evaluate and select a preferred alternative.

September 23 - Policy Group

Present the proposed structure and function of the Preferred Alternative Interagency Development Team (Team)

October 16 - Management Team

Present initial results of Team deliberations. Identify resolved and unresolved issues.

October 21 - Policy Group

Present initial results of Team deliberations. Identify resolved and unresolved issues.

November 4 - BDAC

Present initial results of Team deliberations. Identify resolved and unresolved issues.

November 13&14 - Management Team

Present potentially viable alternatives, as recommended by the Team for deliberation by the Management Team.

November 24&25 - Policy Group

Present potentially viable alternatives, as recommended by the Management Team.

December 2&3 - Management Team

Present proposed Draft Preferred Alternative as recommended by the Team.

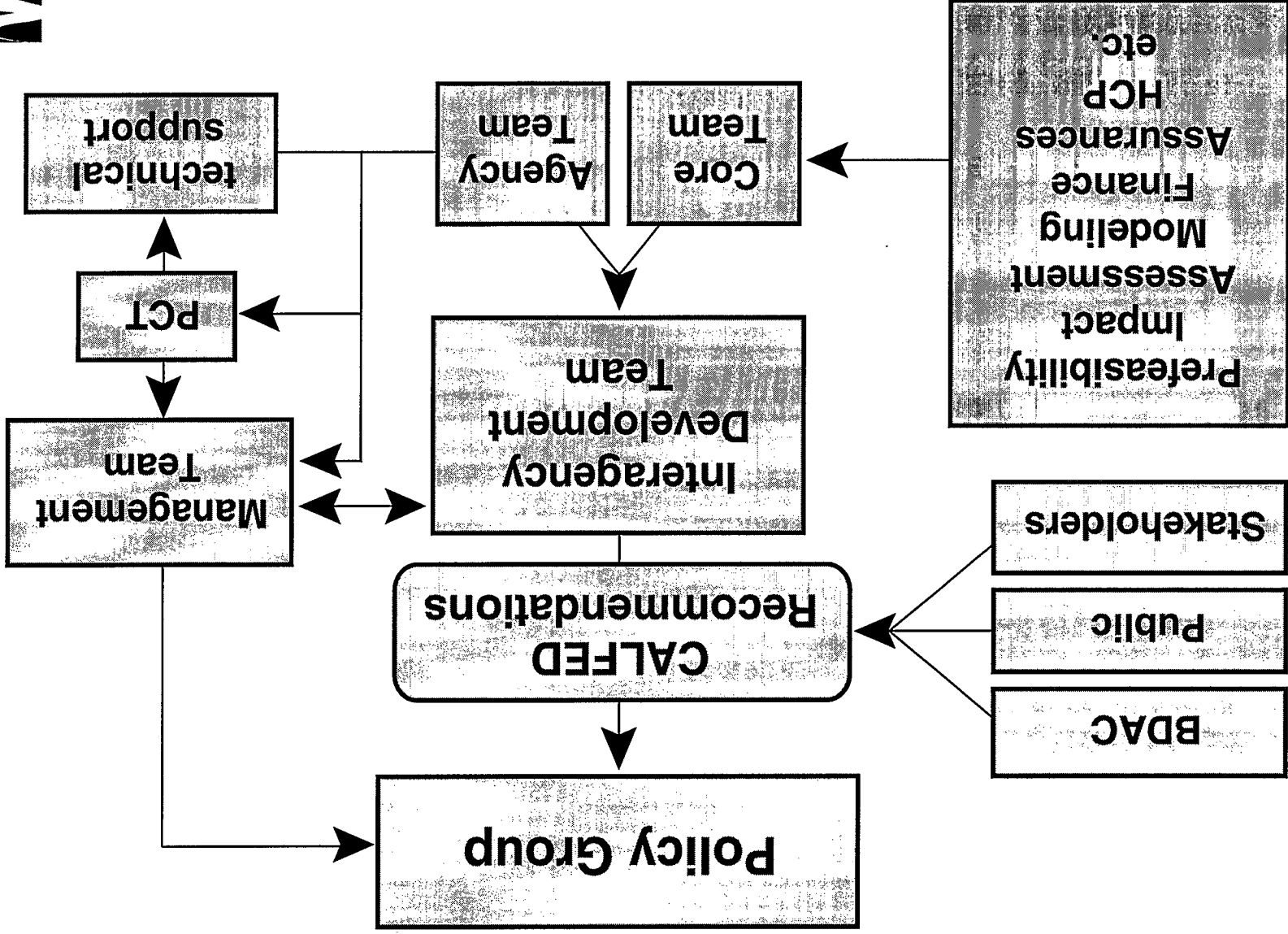
December 12 - BDAC

Present proposed Draft Preferred Alternative recommended by the Team, as modified pursuant to recommendations of the Management Team.

December 18&19 - Policy Group

Present proposed Draft Preferred Alternative recommended by the Team, as modified pursuant to recommendations of the Management Team and BDAC.

Preferred Alternative Development & Screening Process



Key Tasks

- Develop best hybrid for each approach
- Identify critical trade-offs in forming each hybrid
- Identify Preferred Alternative considering:
 - Resource Perspective
 - Program Objectives
 - Solution Principles
 - Relative Performance(Distinguishing Characteristics)